time to time to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and export promotional organisations. Measures to promote exports include simplification of Export Import Policy and Procedures, improving efficiency and competitiveness, focussing on quality and technology upgradation, easing infrastructural bottlenecks and efforts to involve the State Government in export promotion.

Legislation to Regulate and Develop Off-Shore Mineral Resources

814. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring forward a legislation to regulate and develop mineral resources in the Territorial Water, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones of India; and

(b) if so, what are its features and by when the legislation will be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Mines constituted a Working Group in May, 1993 to suggest a suitable legislation for regulation and development of mineral resources in the territorial waters, continental shelf, exclusive economic zones and other maritime zones of India. The Working Group has examined the subject in detail and submitted its Report alongwith a draft of the comprehensive legislation on the subject. The recommended legislation covers interalia provisions for acquiring operating rights for exploration and exploitation besides the provisions for regulation and development of mineral resources in the offshore areas.

Industrial licences for setting up industries in Punjab

815. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial licences issued by Government for establishment of industries as well as small scale industries in the State of Punjab during the period from 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the targets fixed by Government for setting up of new industries in the backward districts of the Punjab State during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The following table shows the number of Industrial Licences issued and small scale industries registered in the State of Punjab during the period 1994-95 and 1995-96:—

Year	No. of Industrial Licences issued	No. of small scale industries registered
1994-95	7	2906
1995-96	6	2679

These Industrial Licences were issued for setting up industries in the districts of Ludhiana, Ropar and Amritsar for the manufacture of items based on textile, transportation, cement and gypsum, sugar, chemical, etc.

(d) No. Central Government for setting up industries in any State or in any backward area of State.

Demand for Pension Scheme by News paper Employees

816. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether newspaper employees are demanding for implementation of a pension scheme in their cases;

(b) if so, the details of such demands received for employees, organisation-wise;

(c) whether Government have issued orders in this regard so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The newspaper employees have been demanding implementation of a pension scheme.

(b) The National Union of Journalist demanded pension at the rate of 50% of the average monthly emoluments drawn during the last 12 months. The All India News Paper Employees Federation wanted the pension scheme to cover both the working Journalist and non-working Journalist employees. The Indian Journalist Association wanted the pension scheme to be framed on the basis of Employers' contribution alone.

(c) and (d) The pension scheme has since been framed and is already under implementation w.e.f. 16.11.95. The Scheme is applicable to all the EPF subscribers including the newspaper employees covered under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. The Scheme, inter-alia, provides for payment of monthly pension in the contingencies of superannuation, retirement, permanent total disablement, death etc. Minimum 10 years' contributory service is necessary for being entitled to pension.

Infrastructural constraints

817. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been apprehended that current industrial boom may not be sustained if the existing infrastructural constraints are not removed by Government on a priority footing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some measures in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) to (c) Development of a strong economic infrastructure in sectors like power, transport and communicatin is considered critical for sustained industrial growth. The Government is already considering extensive application of market mechanism in these sectors through deregulation of production and distribution. Foreign investment in these sectors is also being encouraged to supplement domestic resources.

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान, सरकारी क्षेत्र का इकाइयों में पूंजी-निवेश

818. **श्री राम जेटमलानी:** क्या **उद्योग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के आरंभ में, देश में सरकारी क्षेत्र में अनेक औद्योगिक इकाइयां कार्यरत थीं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1990-91 में ऐसी कुल कितनी इकाइयां थीं तथा उनमें कुल कितनी पूंजी निवेषित थी;

(ग) वर्ष 1995-96 के अंत में, सरकारी क्षेत्र की इन इकाइयों की संख्या कितनी थी तथा उनमें कितनी पूंजी निवेशित थी;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान इन इकाइयों में कर्मचारियों की संख्या में बढ़ोतरी की गई थी; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1990-91 और 1995-96 में कुल कितने-कितने कर्मचारी इन सरकारी क्षेत्र की इकाइयों में कार्यरत थे?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मुरासोली मारन): (क) से (ग) जी हां, 31.3.1991 की स्थिति के अनुसार केन्द्रीय सरकारी क्षेत्र के 246 उद्यमों में 113896 करोड़ रु० का निवेश किया गया था। 31.3.1995 की अवधि तक की जानकारी उपलब्ध है जिसके अनुसार सरकारी क्षेत्र के 245 उद्यमों में किए गए निवेश की राशि 172438 रु० थी।